

Deputy Director's Report

June 16, 2005

Auditor General:

- Under statute we are subject to audit by the State Auditor General every 4 years. The last one, dated 6/30/01, was completed after our first election cycle. We recently met with representatives from the Auditor General's office and they plan to begin reviewing a random selection of our 2004 candidate files on June 21. In addition, it is standard practice that they will look at some internal related procedures related such as payroll and personnel policies.

Financial:

- The current Fund Balance as of May 31, 2004 was \$20,602,583.
- Revenues for May were \$ 2,098,006 and expenditures were \$81,614.
- For the month of May \$1,300,934 came from the voluntary \$5 check off.

Education:

- The monthly Email Blast was sent out on 6/13/05.
- A new "Penalties" handout has been created (per Commissioner Jolley's request)
- The final revisions to the Participating Candidates Guide have been incorporated.
- The Nonparticipating Candidates Guide is being developed.
- We are working with OMA on an extensive \$5 Qualifying Contribution campaign.
- A total of 14 informational handouts have been updated and included in your packets.

Officeholder Expense Accounts Working Group:

- The initial meeting was productive and resulted in some consensus agreement. Significant philosophical differences are still outstanding and we will attempt to resolve as many as possible before forwarding recommendations to the Commission.

Enforcement:

- A total of 76 complaints have been filed. Of those, 54 have been closed or settled and 5 are under investigation. The remaining 17 are pending, awaiting response or on the 6/23/05 agenda.

Speaking Engagements:

- Since the last regular Commission meeting we have made four presentations to the following Rotary clubs: Superstition Mountain, Fountain Hills, Chandler and Deer Valley. We are also scheduled to visit the Tempe East, Camelback and Tempe Rotary Clubs.

Other Projects & Items:

- 2006 Candidate Committees: As of the latest report there are 48 candidate committees filed with the SOS office (43 nonparticipating, 5 participating).
- Valley Leadership "Advocates" Forums – We have been informed by the Executive Director of Valley Leadership that they will be embarking on a series of traditional forums that are designed to encourage constructive discourse on public policy issues. The first, to be held sometime in November, will feature attorneys Paul Eckstein & Mike Manning on Clean Elections.